

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Advisory Action of December 19, 2006, and to the Office Action of September 21, 2006, in which claim 15 and 16 were allowed, claims 1, 4, 7, 8, and 10-12 were rejected, claim 2 was objected to, and claims 3, 5, 6, and 9 were withdrawn from consideration. With this Amendment After Final, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations formerly recited in claim 2, and claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice. As a result of this Amendment After Final, claims 1-12 and 15-16 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 2 was previously objected to as being dependent from a rejected claim, but was otherwise indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 1 is now amended to include the limitations previously recited in claim 2, which were indicated by the Examiner to be allowable. As such, independent claim 1, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice to avoid redundancy.


Claims 4, 7, 8 and 10-12 were also previously rejected. These claims depend from amended independent claim 1, and for at least that reason are allowable therewith.

Claims 3, 5, 6, and 9 which depend from claim 1 and which were withdrawn from consideration, are now also in condition for allowance.

In conclusion, this Amendment After Final places the application in condition for allowance. Notice of allowance of claims 1-12, 15 and 16 is requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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